

CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY
SENATE RESEARCH COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF THE SENATE RESEARCH COMMITTEE
MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY, 11 JUNE 1987 AT 9:00 A.M.
IN BC-110, SGW CAMPUS

ATTENDANCE:

Present were:

C.H. Langford (Chair), P. Albert,
F. Bird, C. MacKenzie (for R. Parker),
P. Shizgal, C.Y. Suen, M.N.S. Swamy,
A.J. Williams, S. Bulzan (Secretary)

Absent with regrets:

P. Fazio, D. Pariser, R. Parker,
C. Ross, M. Szabo

Absent:

J. Doukas, H. Fotouhinia, R. Stoller

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED AND DISTRIBUTED TO SENATE RESEARCH COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

SRC-87-06-11-D-15 SSHRC TASK FORCE REPORT
SRC-87-06-11-D-16 PHARMACEUTICAL HEALTH CARE MANAGEMENT CENTRE

Dr. C.H. Langford occupied the Chair.

I. AGENDA MODIFICATIONS AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- 1.1 It was moved and seconded (Suen, Albert) and
unanimously RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the Senate Research Committee
meeting of May 7, 1987 be approved.

II. CHAIR'S REMARKS:

A/ SSHRC Task Force Report

- 2.1 The Chair discussed SSHRC's Task Force Report. The Senate Research Committee's response to SSHRC will be written in specific terms rather than as a general overview. The response will be circulated to the Senate Research Committee prior to being sent to SSHRC for 30 June 1987.

B/ Internal Distribution of Research Funds

- 2.1 The Chair informed the Committee that the above document has been presented to Senate for its first reading. It has been referred to the Faculty Councils for comment.
- 2.2 The Chair noted that a memo was sent to the Deans asking for proposed mechanisms within each faculty regarding the methodology consistent with NSERC principles (for implementation in 1987-88 on an interim basis).

C/ Québec Tax Policy

- 2.1 The Chair discussed the tax policy of the new Québec budget. He mentioned that Touche-Ross will be organizing a seminar for Concordia researchers on the Québec tax policy, in August or September, 1987.

D/ Director of Research Services - A.J. Williams

- 2.1 The Office of Research Services is compiling the matching dollars report for NSERC and SSHRC for the year 86/87 (ending May 31, 1987). Faculty will be asked to inform the Office of Research Services of any/all donations received for research and/or equipment.
- 2.2 Ms. Williams mentioned that in the preliminary year end report for 1986/87, the total research funding was 9,8 million dollars which is an 11% increase over last year. Contracts made up 13% of

the total funding (1,3 million).

- 2.3 The creation of a Joint Industrial Liaison Office between Concordia and UQAM was discussed. The liaison officer will be part-time on each campus with a part-time secretariat on each campus. The individual's primary purpose will be to become familiar with the research expertise present on each campus and to be aware of the needs and concerns of the industries with the intent of establishing a liaison between the two parties for future cooperation. NRC will fund this project for a two-year period, allowing the universities time to set up the program.
- 2.4 The Office of Research Services will be setting up a research faculty profile database. A summer student has been hired for the project. She will be starting with the Faculty of Engineering and Computer Science.

E/ Concordia Pharmaceutical Health Care Management Centre

- 2.1 The Chair referred to a request from Senate for advice on the proposal to establish the Concordia Pharmaceutical Health Care Management Centre.
- 2.2 The Chair stated that this request has raised a broader issue which the Senate Research Committee will need to discuss. What approach does the Committee wish to take and what ground rules should be established for creation of research Centres? What should constitute the criteria and what are the mechanisms by which a Centre should be created? A general philosophy for research Centres will need to be devised.
- 2.3 The Committee was informed that K.L. McGown would be attending the meeting to discuss his proposed Centre.
- 2.4 The topic of ground rules for creation of new Centres was discussed at length. The main consensus among the Committee was to use the word "Centre" carefully. The terms "unit" and "group" were offered as alternative terminology when discussing the possibility of collaborative ventures at earlier stages of development.

2.5 From the above discussion, the following elements were identified as relevant to evaluation of research Centre proposals:

- a) The mission of the Centre - scientific and pedagogical components;
- b) The credibility of the group - the team's membership and structure;
- c) The group's history of performance;
- d) The relations to other groups.

III. ESTABLISHMENT OF THE CONCORDIA PHARMACEUTICAL HEALTH CARE MANAGEMENT CENTRE (K.L. MCGOWN)

- 3.1 K.L. McGown described the aim of the new Centre as providing a liaison between Concordia and pharmaceutical companies in order to find ways to bring resources into the University.
- 3.2 The new Centre was also described as a means to provide funding for professors and students, and to orient student research to specific "real" industrial problems.
- 3.3 This item is to be put back on the Senate Research Committee Agenda in order to further discuss the criteria required for establishment of a Centre.
- 3.4 Prior to seeking further advice from Senate, the Chair will consult with K.L. McGown. The Office of Research Services will also be in touch with Mr. McGown regarding further information.

IV. GRADUATE BURSARIES VS. GRADUATE ASSISTANTSHIPS (overhead implications)

- 4.1 The Chair discussed the question of whether it is the Senate Research Committee's wish to persuade the University that holders of awards under research grants be considered as recipients of bursaries or as employees of the University.
- 4.2 It was agreed by the Committee that the term "bursary" is more suitable than "assistantships" and approved, in principle, the revised terminology.